

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-11 are pending. Applicants add claims 10 and 11 to further define the invention by way of this Amendment. Claims 10 and 11 describe the numerical ranges in the composition of the solder bump, as described on page 11 of the Specification. None of the cited references teach or suggest this composition.

Turning to the prior art rejections of claims 1 and 3-9, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are patentable for the following reasons.

First, claims 1 and 5 are patentable because it would not have been obvious to modify Omote in view of Hashimoto. Although Hashimoto discloses a solder bump, there is no motivation for adding a solder bump to the terminal in Omote.

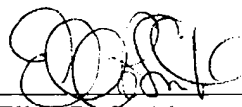
Moreover, it would not have been obvious to use the claimed material composition of claim 1 for the solder bump in Omote. Lubrano is merely directed to soldering pieces together, such as in plumbing. In particular, Lubrano is directed to providing a solder that is as workable as the previous lead solders. There is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to turn to the plumbing solder in Lubrano for use in an electrical circuit board in which electrical connectivity is a primary consideration.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1 and 3-11 are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Preliminary Amendment
U.S. Appln. No. 09/974,048

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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